

whom set up mosques here, of these the mosques of Babar and Aurangzeb are notable.³⁷³ At present this city forms a part of the district of Fyzabad.

(3) *Īśvaravāsaka* (No. 5, L. 6)³⁷⁴ :

It seems to be a village or an allotment of land granted by Āmrakārd̄dava, the son of Undāna, and apparently an officer of Candragupta II to the Āryasaṃgha at the great vihāra of Kākanādaboṭa for the purpose of feeding mendicants.³⁷⁵ The word Īśvara here is connected with Vāsaka and there is no infix or place-name suffix in between (just as 'pura' in Ānandapura-vāsaka). Hence vāsaka here has a double purpose. It is meaningful to Īśvara and also denotes the inhabitation. The whole will literally mean 'an inhabitation of God'.

Place-names ending in Vana

We find some place-names with the suffix denoting forest, for example Vindhyaṭavī, and Vṛndāvana. In our inscriptions we come across only three such names, Tumbavana and Vindhāṭavī, and Mahākāntāra. The suffixes vana, aṭavī and kāntāra are synonyms. These are described below :

1. *Tumbavana* (No. 30, L. 6) :

It has been identified with Tumain in Guna district, the old Gwalior State, now in Madhya Pradesh. It is also mentioned in the Sāñcī Stūpa inscription.³⁷⁶ The Bṛhatsaṃhitā³⁷⁷ refers to it as situated in the South.

The name suggests that Tumba, the gourd *Lagenaria vulgaris* was in abundance at this place.

2. *Mahākāntāra* (No. 1, L. 19) :

It is one of the southern countries subdued by Samudragupta. Its ruler was Vyāghrarāja. Literally Mahākāntāra means 'a great forest'. It has to be distinguished from Sarvāṭavi referred to later on in this inscription.³⁷⁸ According to Krishnaswami Aiyangar,³⁷⁹ it must have included the Saugar division of C.P. extending northwards to the Ajaigadh State in Bundelkhanda. But G. Ramdas differs from this view on the ground that Mahākāntāra must be sought in Southern India as it is specifically mentioned as one of the kingdoms of the South conquered by Samudragupta. He suggests that Mahākāntāra must be the same as Mahāvana, a forest region extending northwards into